

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

April 14, 2009
Minutes

The Board of Selectmen met on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 in the Town Hall Clark Room. Those present were Selectmen Douglas A. G. Stevenson, John D. Williams, William R. Tice, Jr., Alan Carpenito, Timothy F. Hult, and Town Administrator Madonna J. McKenzie.

Mr. Stevenson spoke about Rachel Elliott who recently passed away at the age of 96. He said Ms. Elliott lived in Carlisle since 1946. She was a recipient of Carlisle's most honored citizen award. Ms. Elliott was known as an author of books about dogs. Mr. Stevenson said the Town will miss her and the Board of Selectmen extends sympathy to her family.

Mr. Stevenson then spoke about the *Mosquito* Trash party that was held two weeks ago. He thanked the *Mosquito* for this community event. He also thanked the Carlisle Garden Club for their donation of the sprinkler system (and maintenance of same) that was recently put in on both sides of the Town Hall doors.

Steve Golson leader of Cub Scout Pack #135 was present with the scouts to give a new Flag to the Town. Mr. Stevenson thanked them for their donation.

Town Administrator Report

Mrs. McKenzie informed the Board that the First Religious Society is requesting approval to use the *Green* for the "Field of Flags" exhibit during [most of] the month of May. Mrs. McKenzie said that Diane Miller, who was present this evening from the First Religious Society, has checked with Alan Cameron and has been assured that this will not interfere with the construction of the new Honor Roll or Memorial Day events. *Mr. Hult recused himself from this discussion.* On a motion made by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Tice, it was **VOTED 4 yes 1 abstaining**, to approve the use of the Town Common by the First Religious Society for the "Field of Flags" exhibit during the month of May and coordinate this event with DPW Superintendent Gary Davis so as not to interfere with mowing and with the Honor Roll Committee so there will be no interference with construction of the new memorial.

Mrs. McKenzie said the Old Home Day Committee has requested permission to use the general Town Center for Old Home Day activities on June 27th and 28th. On a motion made by Mr. Tice and seconded by Mr. Williams, it was unanimously **VOTED** to approve the use of the General Town Center, Spalding Field, the School and grounds, the Fire Station, Town Hall and the byways that attach to these properties as well as selected roads for the 1 and 5 mile foot races on June 27th and 28th and that this event be coordinated with the Police Chief and other appropriate Departments. Mr. Hult said Dave and Florence Reed, coordinators of the event will eagerly accept donations to apply to the costs of the event.

Mrs. McKenzie said the Board is being asked by the Conservation Commission to approve the use of \$9,240.00 from the Wetlands Protection Aid, "Intents" account for the purpose of funding wages for the Conservation Administrator. She explained that funds in this account accrue from the filing fees paid by applicants to the Conservation Commission under the Massachusetts Wetland Protection

Act. This has been apart of the budgeting process for several years and one that the Board has approved. On a motion made by Mr. Tice and seconded by Mr. Williams, it was unanimously **VOTED** to approve the use of \$9,240.00 from the Wetlands Protection Aid, "Intents" account for the purpose of funding wages for the Conservation Administrator.

Mrs. McKenzie said the Town Accountant has informed her that the Board needs to increase the spending limits on two 53E½ accounts. She said the Hazardous Waste account spending limit needs to be increased to \$40,000 and the Youth Commission account spending limit needs to be increased to \$10,000. She noted that there are funds in the account. On a motion made by Mr. Tice and seconded by Mr. Carpenito, it was unanimously **VOTED** to approve an increase in the spending limit of the 53E½ Hazardous Waste account to a new limit of \$40,000 and increase the spending limit in the 53E½ Youth Commission account to a new limit of \$10,000.

Mrs. McKenzie informed the Board that the Concord Masonic Corporation is looking for a suitable site in Carlisle to hold a family oriented carnival from May 3rd to May 9, 2010. This topic will be brought back for further discussion.

Mrs. McKenzie said she was informed that the Town will receive \$197,198.00 in Chapter 90 local and transportation aid funding for FY10. She noted that this amount is \$2,000.00 less than last year.

Mrs. McKenzie informed the Board that the Town of Acton has notified the Town of their annual 4th of July fireworks display at NARA Park. The event will start at approximately 10:00 p.m.

Mrs. McKenzie said a few months ago the Silver Star Banner Day Proclamation was presented to the Board for their support and signatures. At that time the Board had asked her to research this organization further and she has. Mrs. McKenzie said she found this to be a worthy cause and one that should be supported by the Board of Selectmen. On a motion mad by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Tice, it was unanimously **VOTED** to proclaim the Board's appreciation of the Silver Star Families of America and honor their commitment to our wounded Armed Forces members and that we proclaim May 1st "*SILVER STAR BANNER DAY*" to be the official day to honor the wounded and ill Soldiers of the Town of Carlisle.

Mrs. McKenzie reminded the Board that they are invited to attend a tour of the Hanscom Air Force Base on Friday, April 24, 2009. The tour is sponsored by the Massachusetts Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. Mrs. McKenzie asked the Board to let them know if they were going to attend the tour.

Mrs. McKenzie said Finance Director Larry Barton will attend the April 28th meeting to discuss retiring some debt using MSBA funds.

Liaison Reports

Mr. Hult said the Community Preservation Committee met recently and they approved the four motions they are going to make at Town Meeting. After Town Meeting there will be approximately \$300,000 in the Affordable Housing fund and \$78,000 in undesignated funds. He said everything is ready for Town Meeting.

Town wide Survey Update

Jim Elgin and John Ballantine were present to discuss the preliminary results from the Town Survey. Jim re-iterated the purpose of the survey, which was to: a) determine current and future community needs and services, with the focus on the needs of seniors, b) help prioritize the needs and services, and, c) solicit input from all adult Carlisle residents. Jim said 1,755 people completed the survey. He showed a chart that divided the age groups by percentage of those who returned the survey. Another chart showed income by age group. Jim talked about the responses to the various questions in the survey, such as the quality of life, social activities, housing and transportation, etc. The answers were varied and interesting. Verna Gilbert, Chair of the Council on Aging spoke to the Board about the 'Comments' section. She said 1,022 comments were received. She said basically they were about taxes and how the Town should control spending. Mr. Ballantine spoke about the next steps. He said they wanted to talk with other Boards and Committees to discuss the survey data. Mr. Stevenson thanked them for their hard work, and asked them to put this data on the website.

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Approved: 4/28/09

Pathways – Update

Deb Belanger was present from the Pedestrian and Bike Safety Advisory Committee. The first topic she spoke about was the status on the Safe Routes to School Grant Program. She said the Grant was approved by the State. The Pathways committee worked with the CPS and Mrs. McKenzie to make this happen.

Deb then spoke about the Pathways. She said so far this season, Allied Paving has put down a second layer of asphalt on all four roads. They have also completed the second layer of asphalt to the area near Ferns to the Library cross-walks and from the ATM driveway to the School Street cross-walks. She said everything is waiting for the chip seal surface. Deb said she is hopeful that this will be done in May or June; but it depends on the weather and the contractor.

Deb talked about the last section, which is the Church Street section. She said they had put together a plan that would have ended at Concord Street, but that did not work out. She and Gary, Alan and Doug consulted with Town Counsel for different options. Town Counsel suggested two options, one of which was making Church Street a one-way. Deb said Stamski & McNary and the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee had both reviewed this plan before they took it to the Historical Commission. After deliberations it was determined that was the best plan. She said this plan was different from the original plan because it has improvements made to it, that is, like moving the pathway over to the pavement, minimizing a few issues and converting the road to a one-way. She said there are abutters who are opposed to having the road a one-way road. Deb said the committee was in a great place in terms of the project.

Mr. Hult asked when the Board would make a decision on this matter, tonight or on April 28th. He was concerned about making the decision about changing the direction of the road in one meeting. Mr. Williams was supportive of this idea. Mr. Carpenito was eager to move forward with this project. Mr. Hult was concerned about curbs.

Sylvia Sillers spoke about the project. She said she likes it better than the previous plan, but she explained the inconveniences that it imposed upon her. Jack O'Connor commented on the future traffic patterns.

On a motion made by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Carpenito, it was unanimously **VOTED** to approve the concept plan of making Church Street a one-way street between School and Concord Road pending the final approval of the engineering plan by the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee and pending any new information from the Parish Committee regarding use of the Common.

Hanover Hill – Mailboxes –Locations

Rob West representing the Wilkins Hill/Hanover Hill development was present for this discussion to keep rural mailboxes in Carlisle. He said the Carlisle Postmaster wants to place Cluster Box Units [CBU] on Westford Street at Hanover Hill. The reasons the Postmaster stated for using the CBU's are costs, challenges, conveniences, responsibilities and growth. Mr. West spoke about the safety issues this would cause to the residents. He asked the Board to write a letter to the postmaster indicating their support of individual mailboxes at the end of each driveway.

Building Commissioner John Luther was also present to concur with Mr. West. He said there would be a public safety issue if the mailboxes were on Westford Street due to the cars lining up [to collect their mail].

Mr. Stevenson asked the few present Planning Board members if there was anything in the Town's subdivision Rules and Regulations regarding mailboxes. Their reply was no, this was un-chartered territory.

On a motion made by Mr. Tice and seconded by Mr. Williams, it was unanimously **VOTED** to address a letter to Gregory J. Lee, Postmaster of Carlisle, indicating the Boards support for individual mailboxes at the end of the driveway in developments in the Town of Carlisle.

Warrant Positions/Draft Motions

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Approved: 4/28/09

Mr. Stevenson said tonight the Board of Selectmen would establish their position on as many of the articles as time would allow. He said he would go through all articles very quickly, and if there were any articles that needed discussion, they would be held out, otherwise they would be supported. Articles – 1, 2-7 **Article 8 Budget Transfers Hold**, 9, 10, **Article 11 CPS – hold**, **Article 12-CCRHS hold**, 13, 14,15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, **Article 22 – CPA Authorization – hold**, **Article 23 – Highland demolition hold**, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, **Article 33 – Solar energy – hold**, 34.

On a motion made by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Tice, it was unanimously **VOTED** to support the Annual Town Meeting of May 4, 2009 Warrant Articles 1 through 34 with the exceptions of Article 8[Fiscal 09 Budget transfers], Article 11[CPS project] Article 12 [CCRHS Project] Article 23 [Highland Demolition] and Article 33 [Solar Power Generation and Wind Conversion Systems Bylaw].

Mr. Stevenson said the Board would not discuss Article 8 until there was a motion to discuss.

Article 11 Lee Storrs was present to discuss the School Building Project. He showed everyone the brochure that the committee prepared as an information product. He also talked about their website with an e-mail address where questions could be asked about the project and answers will be given over the net. He said in an effort to get the word out they have been handing out the brochures at the transfer station. Lee said the School Building Committee met on April 9th and they have requested that the Board of Selectmen support this article. Mr. Hult said he was very supportive of this article and this is the right time to do this project. Mr. Williams said the committee has done a great job. He asked a few questions about the renovations. Lee said they have not received any feedback on that part.

On a motion made by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Tice, it was unanimously **VOTED** to support Article 11.

Article 12 Mr. Stevenson said he met with Jerry Wedge last week and toured the Concord-Carlisle High School. He passed forward some worksheets/fact sheet from that meeting. Mr. Stevenson said his concern was over the \$250,000.00 for the planning study. Mr. Stevenson said this study seems to hold more action than just a study. Louis Salemy a member on the Regional School Committee was present for this discussion. He said the likelihood that the Regional School will get money from MSBA is almost zero. Louis said the study is engineering driven and is a phased-in approach over ten years. He added that some of the projects that need to be done need reimbursement and therefore a planning study is important. He said the study will assess which parts of the school can be saved and which would need to be torn down, in regard to building a new school. It will also assess the structural integrity of the School. Mr. Hult said Louis provided valuable information tonight. However he has reservations on this article. First because of what information they think they will get out of this Study and secondly that the Study is in the same article with the other two items, which are capital items. But, he added, he would not vote against this. Mr. Stevenson said the Board will not take a position on this article tonight. He said he would like Louis to bring a one page summary to the next meeting.

Article 23 Mr. Stevenson said this article for the Demolition of Highland will be moved if the restoration of the Highland Building fails.

Article 33 Solar Power Generation & Wind Conversion Systems Bylaw Mr. Tice said the committee met many times and they had hearings with the Planning Board. Modifications were made to the article to address input from the hearings. Mr. Tice said he was disappointed when he heard today that the Planning Board was not going to support this bylaw. He said they worked very hard to make adjustments to work with the public.

Bob Koning, Chair of the Wind-Energy Committee said he was taken aback by the Planning Board's recent decision. He said the committee worked very hard. They did a lot of research and did a very good job putting together a good by-law. He was surprised and disappointed by the Planning Board's action. In reply to Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Tice said he was not aware of the number of lawsuits that have resulted from the wind turbine by-laws.

David Freedman, associate member of the Planning Board spoke briefly about the Planning Board's meeting the night before. David said the Planning Board understands and appreciates the hard work the committee did on the bylaw. David said the main reason they do want the by-law moved is because there is not enough information in it and therefore it puts the Planning Board in an uncomfortable position. He said in regard to the question of whether we should or should not have a bylaw; the Planning Board feels that from a legal stand point it would be better not to have one. Launa Zimmaro resident said it was about allowing the Town to make this decision. She said the committee has some time to address some of issues brought up by the Planning Board. Mr. Stevenson said this matter will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Liaison Reports

Mr. Tice said the Cable Advisory Committee held their second meeting. A representative from Comcast was present. He asked that residents let the committee know what concerns/complaints they have with Comcast. The next meeting will be in May.

Mr. Williams said the Housing Trust will meet on Thursday, April 16th at 7:30 p.m. He said the Carlisle Teacher's Association will have a negotiating meeting also on that day in the afternoon.

Mr. Williams presented the letter he prepared in support of the Benfield Farm concept. He asked the Board to approve this letter. Mr. Carpenito recused himself from this discussion. On a motion made by Mr. Hult and seconded by Mr. Tice, it was **VOTED 4-0** to approve the letter that supports the Senior Affordable Housing infrastructure on the Town owned Benfield land parcel, copy dated April 14, 2009.

Mr. Stevenson said that at the FinTeam meeting this morning Heidi Zimmerman announced her resignation as Business Manager at the Carlisle Public School. He also spoke briefly about local receipts which are \$50,000.00 short of the expected goal.

He and Mrs. McKenzie will send out a Memo to the Boards and Committees reminding them of their commitment to come in at their budget.

Mr. Williams said the Housing Authority voted at their last meeting to ask the Zoning Board of Appeals to delay adopting the recommended Comprehensive Permit Regulations.

Minutes

On a motion made by Mr. Tice and seconded by Mr. Carpenito, it was **VOTED 4-0- 1** abstaining to approve the Minutes from the Board of Selectmen meeting of March 24, 2009.

Executive Session

At 10:42 a motion was made by Mr. Tice and seconded by Mr. Williams to go into Executive Session to discuss negotiations with a bargaining unit, not to return to open session. The following roll call vote was taken: Stevenson – aye; Williams – aye; Hult – aye; Tice – aye; and Carpenito – aye.

Respectfully submitted by Margaret M. deMare